Theosophists themselves: "through hypnotism they reach the subconscious memory & read all its secrets & find out one's private affairs & the cause of the disease." Dr. McKichan made her "yell for police" by the power of suggestion. Then she went back to sleep and dreamt that her husband was at the furnace, telling someone to "burn her out," when Mrs. Pl---ter prevented him saying "you cannot burn my house getting her out," and told him instead to "go in window & get baby from her." Nonetheless she was "burned out & baby taken, & Dr. M[cKichan] got the papers signed." The content of the "trance" appears to be the same episode that she related, with the sort of changes remarked above, shortly after her firt committal and again on November 13, 1911 (see her "narrative," below).

Dr. McKichan subsequently appeared to her in a dream, trying to lure her away from "Balvastky" [sic] to initiate her into "his school." Later, in a second hypnotically induced trance, she

> dreamed about all the theosophical members appearing to me. Dr. M[cKichan] said he was going to use me for Psychic Research & I was going to [her father's town] & there was a nice white bed waiting for me upstairs (here).

It seems plausible that Dr. McKichan practised some sort of hypnotism on Mrs. DeVere and that it aggravated her already over-wrought condition. She herself claims that the first time she heard of "Psychic Research" [a book as well as an activity?] was "on the couch at Dr McKichan." It is interesting that her husband as well appears to have been engaged in similar if not the same activities, since she reminds him in the same letter that "You told me about other planes & the people who used them for their own selfish ends & communications."

In a long letter to the same dated November 20, 1911, she mentions some psychics they knew in common, discusses various books and articles, such as a book called Scientific Mental Healing by one H. Addington Bruce and an article in the Canadian Journal of Medicine & Surgery on "psychic healing," the various applications of hypnotism and suggestion as developed by Phineas Parkhurst Quimby [ie., "Quimbism"], and its "off-growths" in Christian Science and the New Thought Movement. She is at least aware of "the wonderful influence of the subconscious mind," and of famous cases treated by Liebault, Charcot, Janet, Freud, etc., as discussed in Bruce's book. It becomes an